

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL WINNIPEG
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
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UNCLAS WINNIPEG 269

OTTAWA FOR HOFFMAN, BLISS, LEARY AND USIS/FORDNEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, BLIB, CGEN, ALIB, ABLD, CA

SUBJECT: TRANSITION QUARTER FUNDING

REF: A - OTTAWA 2850
B - WINNIPEG 268
C - HOFFMAN/HUTSON TELCON

1. DELIGHTED THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS MAY RPT MAY BE AVAILABLE DURING TRANSITION QUARTER IN ORDER MEET PRIORITY NEEDS OF THIS POST. WE INTEND TO PUT THIS CAPACIOUS, BUT MOST UNPRESENTABLE AND POORLY ORGANIZED OFFICE SPACE INTO A FACILITY OF WHICH THE MANY US TAX-PAYERS WHO VISIT CAN BE PROUD.

2. AS DISCUSSED IN REF C, WE HAVE ALREADY GONE AHEAD WITH SEVERAL COMMITMENTS WHICH WERE APPROVED BY GSO BUT THEY ARE INCLUDED IN THIS OVERALL REQUEST TO GIVE EMBASSY TOTAL PICTURE.

3. ITEMS NEEDED ARE LISTED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY:

A - LEASE OF TWO BATTERY PAGEBOYS -- DOLS 500 PER YEAR.

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JUSTIFICATION: WHILE CONGEN ALREADY SUBSCRIBES TO TAS, (TELE-

PHONE ANSWERING SERVICE), WITH ONLY TWO US OFFICERS WE NEED THIS CAPABILITY IN ORDER TO BE REACHED IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS WHEN WE MIGHT BE TEMPORARILY AWAY FROM THE PHONE. WE BELIEVE THIS IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE BEST POSSIBLE SERVICE TO US CITIZENS, VISA APPLICANT, AND ALSO TO BE RESPONSIVE AT ALL TIMES TO EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT.

B - REALIGNMENT OF OFFICE TELEPHONE SYSTEM -- DOLS 600 (PURCHASE ORDER ALREADY SUBMITTED).

JUSTIFICATION: RECENTLY, A SWITCHBOARD WAS INSTALLED HERE, BUT IT HAS PROVEN TO BE INEFFICIENT (SINCE TELEPHONE CALLS ARE GENERALLY HANDLED TWICE) AND DISRUPTIVE IN PUBLIC RECEPTION AREA. CONGEN AND TELEPHONE COMPANY HAVE REDESIGNED SET UP TO ELIMINATE SWITCHBOARD AND PROVIDE FIVE LINE CONSOLS FOR KEY STAFF MEMBERS. AS A RESULT, BELIEVE WE CAN BE MUCH MORE RESPONSIVE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND ALSO TO OTTAWA AND WASHINGTON.

C - REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICE FURNITURE : DOLS 940.

JUSTIFICATION: OFFICE IS PRESENTLY EQUIPPED WITH SERVICEABLE SOFA AND EASY CHAIR WHICH WOULD MAKE GOOD ADDITION TO RESIDENCE RECREATION ROOM, BUT ARE NOT AT ALL APPROPRIATE IN ITS PRESENT LOCATION. UNIT WHICH WE HAVE IN MIND FOR LOCAL PURCHASE CAN BE ASSEMBLED IN PARIOUS COMBINATIONS TO PROVIDE PROPER APPEARANCE FOR PRINCIPAL OFFICER, DEPUTY AND COMMERCIAL LIBRARY.

D - PLANTS AND GREENERY -- 9 AT DOLS 608 EACH.

JUSTIFICATION: HAPPILY, WE HAVE A VERY SPACIOUS PUBLIC AREA WHICH WHEN NOT CROWDED (AS IT IS THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER) WITH VISA APPLICANTS AND US CITIZENS, HAS AN ALMOST CAVERNOUS COLDNESS ABOUT IT. WE WOULD LIKE TO BRIGHTEN AND BREAK UP THIS MONOTONY WITH SOME ARTIFICIAL (FOR THE LESS HEATED FOYER) AND REAL PLANTS AND GREENERY (FIRNS, RUBBER PLANTS, ETC.).

E - 3/4 INCH CASSETTE VIDEO TAPE RECEIVER (VTR) -- ESTIMATED COST EOLS 1800.

JUSTIFICATION: WE BELIEVE THAT THIS UNIT COULD EASILY BE AMORTIZED
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ON THE BASIS OF THE SAMPLE OF THE JIMMY CARTER - BILL MOYERS CASSETTE WHICH WAS LOANED TO US BY TORONTO. SO FAR, WE HAVE NOT USED IT SINCE IT WOULD COST DOLS 50;00 PER DAY TO RENT A UNIT LOCALLY. IF EMBASSY BELIEVES PURCHASE NOT WARRANTED, THEN REQUEST AUTHORIZATION (EITHER FROM EMBASSY OR USIS GOE) TO RENT EQUIPMENT HERE 10 TIMES PER YEAR AT A COST OF DOLS 500.00.

4. DESIGN AND ADAPTATION OF EXISTING COMMERCIAL AND CONSULAR

FACILITIES --

A - PUBLIC AREAS AND COMMERCIAL LIBRARY -- DOLS 13,250.

JUSTIFICATION: WHEN DESIGNED IN 1962, THIS FACILITY WAS PRIMARILY USED FOR CONSULAR BUSINESS, AND ALTHOUGH THERE IS PLENTY OF SPACE, UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO PLACE FOR AN EFFECTIVE COMMERCIAL REFERENCE FACILITY (REF B). WE DO, HOWEVER, HAVE A LARGE AREA AT THE ENTRANCE FOR PUBLIC WAITING AND A TOO LARGE AREA BEHIND THE COUNTER FOR OUR CONSULAR CLERKS. WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO IS TO UTILIZE AND ADAPT (WITHOUT ANY CONSTRUCTION) THIS AVAILABLE SPACE TO CREATE:

(I) A SUFFICIENTLY LARGE AND WELL STOCKED LIBRARY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF US AND CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN:

(II) A SOMEWHAT SMALLER BUT MORE EFFICIENT CONSULAR WAITING ROOM WHICH WILL SUFFICE EVEN DURING THE BUSIEST TIMES AFTER WE HAVE FULLY EXPLOITED OUR ALREADY EXISTING VISA BY MAIL SYSTEM:

(III) ACROSS-THE-COUNTER VISA OPERATION WITH VISA CLERICAL DESKS AT THE SAME OPERATING LEVEL AS THE COUNTER TO SAME TIME AND STEPS IN DEALING WITH OUR SUMMER LOAD. THE DESIGNER ALSO HAS IN MIND THE USE OF ATTRACTIVE BUT DURABLE SOUND AND SIGHT PARTITIONS WHICH WILL BREAK UP THE VACUITY OF THIS AREA AND INTRODUCE AN ELEMENT OF PRIVACY, SERENITY, AND EFFICIENCY WHICH IS SADLY ABSENT FROM ANY VISA OPERATION I HAVE EVER SEEN. THIS WOULD BE DONE THROUGH THE USE OF FURNITURE ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT AND WOULD NOT RPT NOT INVOLVE ANY CONSTRUCTION.

B - OFFICE AREA (9) AND CORRIDORS -- DOLS 9,500.

AUSTIFICATION: ALTHOUGH A LOWER PRIORITY THAN THE PUBLIC AREA,
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WITH THE USE OF PAINT, GRAPHICS, SOME DURABLE FLOOR AND WALL COVERINGS, AND UTILIZING WHEREVER POSSIBLE EXISTING OFFICE FURNITURE, THE REDECORATION OF THESE AREAS WOULD BRING THE ENTIRE INTERIOR INTO CONFORMITY WITH THE PUBLIC AREAS. SHOULD FUNDS NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THE OFFICES NOW, THIS COULD BE DONE AT A LATER TIME BY THE SAME FIRM AND STILL MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THE DESIGN CONCEPT.

QA - ENTRANCE SIGNAGE, NEW HANDRAILING AND FOYER -- DOLS 1,800.

JUSTIFICATION: AT PRESENT THE APPROACH AND ENTRANCE TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL IS DISGUSTINGLY UNINVITING. THE PLACE IS PRESENTLY IDENTIFIED ONLY BY A NEW EMBLEM (GENEROUSLY LOANED BY TORONTO). THE STAIRWAY IS A GREY, GRUBBY, GRAELLY GAGGLE OF STEPS LEADING TO A POTENTIALLY ATTRACTIVE BUT PRESENTLY BLAH FOYER. FOR THIS

SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY THE FRONT CAN BE DRESSED UP INTO A TASTEFUL
VISAGE OF WHICH US TAXPAYERS CAN BE RIGHTLY PROUD.

5# TOTAL COST OF THIS PACKAGE IS DOLS 28,880. WE WOULD LOVE TO
RECEIVE THE FULL BOLT, AND ARE CONVINCED THIS WOULD BE MONEY
VERY WELL SPENT. IF THE TOTAL AMOUNT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE PLEASE
GIVE US ALL YOU CAN AND WE WILL START AT THE TOP AND FINISH THIS
OFF WHEN OTHER MONIES APPEAR.
HUTSON

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